An ***adaptation*** is a body part or behavior that helps a living thing survive in its environment. Adaptions help living things meet their needs.

Plant Adaptations	Animal Adaptations
• Plants need water, air, soil, and nutrients to live. Nutrients come from the soil. • Some plants don't get the nutrients they need form soil, so they adapt to become carnivorous by trapping and digesting insects and small animals. • Plants that live in swamps have adapted to grow in wet soil. • Few plants can grow in saltwater, but cordgrass can. It has parts that filter out the salt water through its leaves. • Some GA habitats are dry and windy so plants have adapted to these conditions by storing water in the leaves and stems like the pear cactus. The cactus pear stores water in its stem and the spines help to prevent water loss. • Some plants have adapted to low light such as plants that grow on the forest floor. These plants sometimes climb up trees or have large leaves to help collect light. • Some plants have adapted to too much light like the Spanish Moss which lives in tree tops and uses its parts (like scales) to take in water from the air. • Some plants can survive fire like the Turkey Oak. The longleaf pine tree depends on fire for its seeds to grow into grass. Older longleaf pine trees have bark that can survive fire. • Some plants protect themselves from animals by using spines, thorns, and poisons (poison ivy, stinging nettle, water hemlock, and jack-in-the-pulpit).	• Animals, like plants, have both behaviors and parts that help them meet their need for food. • Aquatic animals live in water habitats and have adaptations that help them move and find food in their habitat. 1. The American beaver has a tail and webbed feet that help him steer and swim quickly. 2. A shellfish has an adaptation called a foot that attached the animal to underwater rock. 3. Mussels have a body part that sucks in water and filters out tiny floating organisms for food. 4. Some animals have water proof fur or feathers like the wood duck. • Some animals have behaviors that help them to survive when food is scarce. 1. Some animals migrate or move to warmer regions food is scarce (hard to find). Herons migrate to Georgia from other states. 2. Some animals hibernate during cold months when food is hard to find, like the little brown bat that lives in Georgia's caves. 3. Some animals catch and eat prey (animals hunted for food). For example, a rabbit is prey for a fox. 4. Animals that hunt prey often have body parts that help them to hunt such as sharp talons, keen eyesight, or sharp beaks. • Some animals have adaptations that help them to survive and keep them safe from enemies. 1. A yellow jacket stings when threatened. 2. Many animals have coloring (camouflage) that protect them. The Copperhead snake has marking that help it blend in with leave. 3. Some harmless animals use mimicry (looking like another kind of living thing that is poisonous or harmful). A nonpoisonous king snake looks like a poisonous coral snake.